

Office Memorandum • **SECRET** UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : C/SR/PP

DATE: 1 June 1956

FROM : PP/ICD/Prop: ^{WHA} C 7

SUBJECT: Comments on "Prologue Association" Publication Intended for Circulation Near and Middle East.

Review of the draft articles submitted recently for review by C suggests the following comments for your consideration:

I. General: 1. The long-term effectiveness of the proposed publication will be affected in considerable measure by the impression made by early issues, and particularly the first (since the appeal for contributions is to be based upon it.) For maximum impact of this issue it appears essential that it contain articles prepared not only by members of the sponsoring group, but also from a number of different countries including Asian and if possible, Near and Middle Eastern ones.

2. All articles should either include references to Asian problems and events, or deal with matters known to be of concern in intellectual circles of Asia.

3. The periodical should not confine itself to articles having some relation to problems of nationalism, or even to essentially political subjects. It should, for maximum appeal call itself-and become-something on the order of "a journal for full and frank discussion of important issues of the day, devoted to encouraging free individuals in free nations" through articles on philosophy, sociology, government, history, religion, etc. contributed on a world-wide basis. Examples: Communism and Intellectualism; Communism and Islam; Theory and Practice in Soviet Political Science.

4. Although aimed at intellectuals, the periodical should use all possible approaches to format and content, which can keep it from being ponderous. These might include:

a. Shorter articles, and short ones interspersed with the "long" ones.

b. Sketches and insert material for the end of stories.

c. Listing of the most attention-getting features on the cover.

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d. Listing of coming features of widespread interest on the back cover.

e. A statement of the purpose of the journal in each copy, presumably on the inside of the front cover-perhaps with a symbol of the organization.

II. Specific: 1. The use of the word "nationalism" in the sense it is used should be clarified in explanatory notes, or at the outset of specific articles.

2. The use of the term "Soviet patriotism" is questionable, since it has a favorable connotation rather than the unfavorable one desired (e.g. in the Kazakhstan article, p. 10). What is meant is Soviet "anti-nationalism," a much preferable term in the context of this and anticipated articles.

3. The problem of achieving the balance between appearing too-one-sided against all-things Soviet and throwing in gratuitous questioning of Free World intentions, and actions, requires constant and very detailed attention. Illustrations of the problem in the Kazakhstan article were pointed out to [redacted] [redacted].

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